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Bangalore Mirror

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Not only is the wait for BMTC buses long, at some places it is downright disgusting as unkempt bus shelters overflow with waste, broken infra and some even have yellow spots nearby

STOP OVER IN HELL

Across city, bus stops reek of neglect

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There are many areas in the city which do not have any bus shelters, and it is not clear when the authorities concerned plan to construct them. But, if we shift our focus to the existing bus shelters, there is nothing to celebrate there either. In fact, some bus shelters have become an eyesore. A bus shelter, billed as India's first ever air-conditioned bus shelter near NR Square, constructed more than 15 years ago, has now become history.

Bins full of garbage, rusted frames and seats and yellow spots are common at the majority of the bus shelters in the city. BMTC commuters said that waiting at these bus shelters is a nauseating task for them. "It seems nothing is being done either to stop the dumping of garbage or clear it on a regular basis at this bus shelter. It would be only right if the BBMP officials ensure that there is no garbage at this bus shelter," said Lakshmi S, a commuter waiting to board a BMTC bus at the bus

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8 >>

"It seems nothing is being done either to stop the dumping of garbage or clear it on a regular basis at this bus shelter

— Lakshmi S, about a bus shelter near Baiyappanahalli

Sun is not quite shining on this scheme

Of 27,214 sanctioned solar-powered agricultural pumps, only 1,368 installed in state till June this year

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Karnataka is lagging in implementing the PM-KUSUM scheme to install solar-powered pump sets in the agricultural sector. According to data from the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE), while the state has 27,214 sanctioned standalone solar-powered agricultural pumps, only 1,368 have been installed till June 2024, highlights a report by the Centre for Science and Environment, a Delhi-based NGO.

Experts say the current process to avail of the subsidy and install solar pumps is cumbersome, leading to a low number of installations. The scheme was brought in for farmers, and it can reach beneficiaries only when local integrators are made part of the process. Currently, vendor empanelment has been restricted to only solar pump and panel manufacturers, leaving out local integrators. Authorities reason that these manufacturers will aid in better execution of the scheme due to their high financial viability.

"Local integrators in and around

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8 >>

PAGE 3

FLEX VIGIL

BBMP plans to keep an eye out in the night for anybody who tries to put up illegal hoardings or posters

PAGE 4

FULL POWER

Karnataka turns power-surplus state as out of 250 mn units generated daily, only 180 mn units consumed in state

3 THINGS TO DO

01 Alumni reconnect

A warm call to Sophia alumni! Join in to celebrate 75 years of excellence, memories, and lifelong friendships as Sophia High School hosts a special event for its beloved alumni to celebrate its 75th Platinum Year at the school premises with the theme 'Remember, Rejoice, Reconnect.' With reunion gatherings, staff interactions, a canteen corner, a campus walk-through, and a gala dinner, this milestone celebration promises to be a memorable evening filled with nostalgia, camaraderie, and festivities. The school hopes that the Alumni Reconnect will be the catalyst for building a robust, well-networked community both in India and around the world.
Where: Sophia High School, Palace Road; When: August 3, 5 pm onwards

02 Retrospective exhibit

The National Gallery of Modern Art Bengaluru (Ministry of Culture, Government of India) cordially invites you to the inauguration of an in-house curated exhibition, 'Srishti,' a retrospective of Dr Pushpa Dravid. The exhibit will be inaugurated by Rahul Dravid. The exhibition will be on view until September 3, 2024, from 10 am to 6 pm. **Where: National Gallery of Modern Art, Palace Road, When: August 2, 5 pm**

03 Tales of bravery

Watch 'Aparajita,' a play that delves into the nuances of the lives of women separated by time and context, Mira and Jahnavi, who choose to walk and carve their path, and how this path pricks the eye with which our society puts its infamous 'moral watch' on them. Explore their absolute love and devotion to walk the paths of their choosing and their yearning to protect them from the harsh social realities that banish them from doing so. **Where: Jagriti Theatre, Whitefield When: August 3**

HC orders trial over RTO SI's bribery allegations

Govt employee must face trial, regardless of departmental inquiry outcome: HC

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The Karnataka High Court has ruled that a government employee accused of criminal misconduct for demanding and accepting a bribe must prove their innocence in a trial, regardless of the outcome of a departmental inquiry.

The decision was made by a single judge bench of Justice HP Sandesh while rejecting a petition filed by T Manjunath, who was arrested under the Prevention of Corruption Act. The court rejected Manjunath's petition, stating, "Sanction was granted having considered the material available on record regarding demand and acceptance of the alleged bribery."

Manjunath, a senior inspector at the Regional Transport Office, challenged a trial court order that had found the sanction for his prosecution invalid and returned the charge sheet to the investigating agency, allowing them to file a fresh charge sheet after obtaining the necessary sanction from the competent authority.

It was argued that the Lokayuktha police had directed the complainant to secure a voice recording before registering an FIR, which was said to be contrary to the Supreme Court judgements made in the Lalitha Kumar vs State of Uttar Pradesh case, where it was said that registering an FIR is mandatory if the information discloses the commission of a cognisable offence, and no preliminary inquiry is permissible in such situations. Manjunath also submitted that he was exonerated in the departmental inquiry, which clearly recorded that there was no material against him, and therefore, there should be no criminal prosecution against him.

The Lokayuktha's counsel challenged the plea and argued for overturning the trial court's decision. They maintained that since the employee was initially hired as a Group-C employee and subsequently promoted, the Transport Commissioner held the authority to make the appointment. The court noted, "The question of giving liberty also does not arise when sanction is accorded by the Competent Authority in terms of the notification dated February 11, 2010, which confers on the Transport Commissioner to accord the sanction in view of the order of the government." Consequently, the court allowed the petition filed by the Lokayukta.

PIL on practices in Cauvery River

The HC has issued a notice to the state government regarding a Public Interest Litigation (PIL) petition that seeks to regulate the practice of 'Asthi Visarjan' and its associated rituals on the banks of the Cauvery River in Srirangapatna. The petitioners, a group of six advocates led by Kushal Kumar Koushik, have requested the court designate specific spots for these rituals to prevent pollution of the river.

Additionally, they have also asked the court to recognise the river as a 'juristic person,' following the precedent set by the Uttarakhand HC, which declared the Ganga and Yamuna rivers and their tributaries as 'juristic persons'. They requested that the court effectively enforce the 2011 ban on 'Asthi Visarjan' and its related practices at Gosai Ghat and Nimishamba temple areas and also called for the creation of a mechanism to prevent people from throwing flowers, plastic bags, and clothes of the deceased into the river and to take action against those polluting the river at various locations. The petitioners clarified that they "did not intend to meddle with a sensitive issue such as 'Asthi Visarjan' nor were they seeking the stopping of the practice, being aware of its importance to the Hindu religion." However, they expressed these concerns and pointed out that human ash contains harmful chemical compounds that can alter the composition of river water. Lastly, they sought a ban on local landowners using their private properties on the riverbanks for religious practices associated with 'Asthi Visarjan' or showing penance to the dead for financial gain.

Uptick in hand, foot & mouth disease in city

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While dengue cases are on the rise in Bengaluru and other parts of Karnataka, paediatricians are now observing an increase in cases of hand, foot, and mouth disease (HFMD). Children are most susceptible to HFMD, which can spread easily in close settings like schools and daycare centres, said Dr Parimala V Thirumalesh, Senior Consultant in Neonatology and Pediatrics at Aster CMI Hospital.

Dr Thirumalesh reports seeing 30 to 35 cases of HFMD per week. "As the monsoon arrives, cases of viral and fungal infections, such as hand-foot-mouth disease, tend to rise. It is highly contagious and spreads through coughing, sneezing, or encountering an infected person. Human faeces could also be a carrier of the infection," she said.

Preventive measures
Practice the COVID preventive measures of SMS (safe distance, mask, and sanitization), use tissue for secretions with proper disposal. Clean and disinfect the diapering area, potty chairs, bathrooms, and toilets after each use, and mouth toys, objects, and surfaces at least daily and when soiled. Staff should closely monitor the handwashing of all children after they have used the bathroom and prior to eating.

Common symptoms of HFMD include a lack of hunger, high fever, cough, cold, vomiting, diarrhoea, and a sore throat. Since there is no vaccine for HFMD, preventive measures are crucial; however, it typically subsides on its own within seven to ten days. "Checking children's hands and feet every day to screen for infection, staying home until blisters heal, and cleaning fomites like toys and desks can help prevent the spread," Dr Thirumalesh added.

Additional preventive steps include frequent hand washing, staying hydrated, avoiding highly acidic foods, eating soft foods, and not touching the mouth, eyes, and nose frequently.

Dr Ravikiran S, Senior Consultant in Pediatrics and Neonatology at Sakra World Hospital, Bengaluru, reports seeing about three cases per day in the past week. "HFMD is a contagious illness caused by different viruses, most commonly the Coxsackievirus. It typically affects infants and children under age 5, but older kids and adults can also catch it, though rarely." He further states that the incubation period for HFMD is three to six days. "About one to two days after the fever begins, small red spots form in the mouth, which may turn into blisters. A skin rash can also appear on the hands, feet, buttocks, and sometimes the elbows and knees. Children with HFMD may shed the virus from the respiratory tract for one to two weeks and in stool for weeks to months after infection," added Dr Ravikiran.

BBMP cracks down on illegal banners: Night patrols to enforce ban

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To ensure the ban on illegal banners, hoardings, and posters in the city is effective, the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) has decided to keep a vigil on those responsible for putting up posters, banners, and hoardings at night.

BBMP Chief Commissioner Tushar Girinath on Monday directed the BBMP authorities to start night patrols to stop the installation of banners and flexes at night. The Chief Commissioner has directed the authorities to implement the ban on illegal posters, flexes, and banners without fail.

However, many activists, while welcoming the decision to start the night patrols, have expressed doubts over the effective implementation of the ban on illegal banners, posters, and flexes in the city. They said that BBMP authorities at the ward level are not able to remove posters or banners put up by politicians either to convey birthday wishes or for other purposes.

Stating that the BBMP authorities and police have failed to implement the ban on illegal banners, flexes, and posters, GR Mohan, an advocate who filed a public interest litigation (PIL) petition in the High Court, said that the BBMP Chief Commissioner has failed to take action against those responsible for putting up banners, posters, and flexes illegally.

"There is no need for the BBMP to start night patrols as the police are assigned to curb the menace of putting up banners and flexes at night. However, the police have also failed

KAUSHIK JN

to register cases against those responsible for putting up banners, flexes, and posters at night. The police on night beat simply collect money from those putting up banners, flexes, and posters at night," said Mohan.

Welcoming the BBMP Chief Commissioner's directive on commencing the night patrols, S Amaresh, Managing Trustee of Right To Information Study Center, demanded the BBMP Chief Commissioner take measures to remove illegal hoardings put up on foot over bridges and skywalks at different locations in the city.

"Many advertising companies have defaulted on payment to the BBMP. How can the BBMP allow such companies to continue to earn revenue by putting up hoardings and banners on skywalks?" asks Amaresh.

Demanding the authorities ensure the city is free from banners, flexes, and posters, NS Ravi, president of the Bharathinagar Residents' Welfare Association, said that the menace of illegal posters, banners, and flexes has decreased in the city compared to recent years.

"I am against spoiling the beauty of the city by putting up banners, posters, and flexes. I welcome the BBMP Chief Commissioner's directive on commencing night patrols," said Ravi.

Recently, the Karnataka High Court issued a show-cause notice to the BBMP Chief Commissioner and the Police Commissioner for failing to implement orders from public interest litigations (PILs).

Coming down heavily on the BBMP Chief Commissioner for failing to ensure Shivajinagar is free from banners, flexes, and posters, Purushotham, a resident of Annaswamy Mudaliar Road, has said the BBMP authorities have failed to remove the flexes and banners put up by the supporters of elected representatives. "I want the BBMP Chief Commissioner to be prosecuted for contempt of court," said Purushotham.

BM Education

The allotment of seats under NEET-UG is carried out through a transparent Online Counselling process. It ensures convenience and accessibility to candidates — Anupriya Patel

NMC enforces biometric attendance, NEET-UG counselling set to begin

The NMC mandates biometric attendance for medical faculty, while NEET-UG 2024 counselling starts August 14. Meanwhile, Sophia High School celebrates its 75th anniversary and Dayananda Sagar University raises awareness on human trafficking

NEET-UG counselling to begin from August 14

Biometric attendance for medical faculty

The National Medical Commission (NMC) has mandated that medical college faculty members personally record attendance using the Aadhaar-enabled biometric system. The NMC warned of action against impersonation, citing concerns about fake fingerprints being used. Additionally, medical institutions must update their websites with detailed faculty lists for each department, including names, photos, qualifications, designations, and registration numbers by July 31. Incomplete or incorrect submissions will face repercussions. These lists must also be linked to the biometric system and updated monthly. The NMC emphasises the seriousness of these requirements to ensure accurate attendance and transparency.

Counselling for NEET-UG to start from August 14

The Medical Counselling Committee (MCC) has announced that the counselling process for the National Eligibility cum Entrance Test Undergraduate (NEET-UG) 2024 will commence on August 14. The registration for the counselling process is expected to begin in the first week of August, as stated by Dr B Srinivas, Secretary of the National Medical Commission (NMC). Candidates are encouraged to regularly check the MCC website for the most recent updates and notifications regarding the counselling process. According to Srinivas, "The counselling will take place for the allotment of approximately 1.10 lakh MBBS seats in around 710 medical colleges across the country. Also, the counselling will be held for 21,000 BDS seats besides Ayush and nursing seats."

The MCC will be responsible for conducting the counselling for the 15 per cent all-India Quota seats, as well as 100 percent seats of all AIIMS, JIPMER Pondicherry, all central university seats, and 100 percent deemed university seats.

Platinum year

Sophia High School is organising its 75th Platinum Year on August 3, 2024, at 5.00 pm. The evening's highlights will include reunion gatherings where alumni can meet, catch up, and sing along with old friends and classmates, sharing stories and reminiscing about their school days. The Canteen Corner will offer a selection of favourite 'tuck shop' foods, bringing back the nostalgia of school days. There will be a guided campus walk-through and a gala dinner, providing a varied meal over conversations and connections.

Human trafficking is a serious issue

On July 30, 2024, the Legal Aid Clinic at Dayananda Sagar University hosted a legal literacy program for 'World Day Against Trafficking in Persons.' Held in collaboration with the Karnataka State Legal Services Authority and Bangalore Urban District Legal Services Authority, the event featured Varadaraj B, who emphasised the severity of human trafficking. Brinda Adige of Global Concerns India highlighted the exploitation of women and children, urging vigilance with personal information on social media. Dr Amit Bhatt, vice-chancellor of Dayananda Sagar University, noted that human trafficking and bonded labor constitute a billion-dollar global industry.

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K'taka is now power surplus state, thanks to recent rainfall

State has also endured loss of ₹96 crore of infrastructure damage due to rains

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Recent rains have not only replenished reservoir water levels but also significantly boosted power production in Karnataka. Currently, Karnataka generates 250 million units of power daily. Of this, 180 million units are consumed within the state, and 20 million units are returned to Punjab and Uttar Pradesh under a barter system. The surplus 40-50 million units are sold on the open market, generating revenue of Rs. 1,403 crore from May 20, 2024, to July 29, 2024.

Energy Minister KJ George noted, "Over the past fiscal year, our plants have not only achieved a record-breaking power generation of 22,313 million units but also seen a substantial revenue increase, reaching Rs. 10,916 crore. Notably, the Raichur Thermal Power Station (RTPS) units operated non-stop for 103 days during the summer." Karnataka has negotiated power swaps with Uttar Pradesh, arranging for the exchange of 300 to 600 Million Watts during pre-solar and post-solar hours from October 2023 to May 2024. This power will be returned to Uttar Pradesh from June 2024 to September 2024. A similar arrangement has been finalized with Punjab for 500 MW of round-the-clock (RTC) power from November 2023 to May 2024. The power generation will go up shortly as Yelahanka Gas Power Plant which is established by Karnataka Power Corporation Limited (KPCL) will generate a total of 370.05 MW, with 236.825 MW from a gas turbine generator and 133.225 MW from a steam turbine generator. The combined cycle pilot production process has already been completed. The Bidadi Power Generation project, a collaboration between KPCL and Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike, involves an investment of Rs. 260 crore. It is designed to process 600 tons of waste and generate 11.5 MW of electricity.

Currently Karnataka generates 250 million units of power daily, of which 180 are consumed within the state, 20 returned to other states

However, the rains have also caused significant damages. George held a review meeting with all Electricity Supply Companies (ESCOM) Managing Directors at Belaku Bhavana in Bengaluru to oversee the measures being taken to mitigate the power infrastructure damages and livelihood losses in the respective ESCOM zones. "I have visited the Chikkamagaluru region over the last two days to assess the damages caused by heavy rains to power infrastructure and the people's livelihoods. Along with Additional Chief Secretary Gaurav Gupta, we have been monitoring the losses in various other ESCOM zones. The losses are substantial, and our Energy Department officials, linemen, and gangmen are working tirelessly to restore the power infrastructure and resume the power supply as a high priority," said George during today's press conference. "The state has experienced a total infrastructure loss of Rs. 96.61 crore as of July 28, 2024. Ideally, it will take 2-3 days to repair the damaged infrastructure, and our linemen are addressing the issue. We have also given permission to respective ESCOM Managing Directors to hire additional gangmen to expedite the restoration process. Private contractors working with us have also been tasked with deploying their resources to restore the infrastructure," stated Additional Chief Secretary of the Energy Ministry Gaurav Gupta. "In the Malnad region, we have seen more damage comparatively during this rainy season due to the heavy gusty winds. Areas such as Chikkamagaluru, Shimoga, Udupi, Hassan, Sakleshpura, and the Kodagu region have suffered the most damage," Gupta added.

> **"Over the past fiscal year, our plants have not only generated 22,313 million units, but also seen a revenue increase to ₹10,916 crore** – KJ George, Minister

Lalbagh Botanical Garden gears up for Independence Day flower show

The annual Independence Day flower show at Lalbagh Botanical Garden in Bengaluru is set to take place from August 8 to 19. Organized by the Horticulture Department, this year's theme celebrates the life and achievements of Dr BR Ambedkar.

In preparation for the event, the Horticulture Department, along with volunteers and Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike, held a meeting to discuss plans to make the show litter-free. Former Secretary of the Department of Ecology and Environment, Dr AN Yalappa Reddy, emphasized the importance of maintaining cleanliness. "The flower show theme is Dr BR Ambedkar, and him having been a visionary highlighted through Article 58 of the Constitution the responsibility of every citizen to protect nature," he said. "It is not just the responsibility of the department but all people attending the show, whether visitors or vendors, to keep the premises clean and tidy," he emphasised.

Republic Day horticulture show at Lalbagh Botanical Garden, Bengaluru, showcasing a variety of flower displays

Odette Katrak from Beautiful Bharat, who has been working with the Horticulture Department for nine years, expressed hope with renewed efforts to reduce litter and plastic. "While banned items have reduced, they continue to percolate into the premises, especially NWPP bags, which many believe are cloth. The gap in knowledge will be filled by creating awareness among vendors," she stated. To ensure compliance, it was decided during the planning meeting that vendors will be required to pay a refundable deposit of Rs. 5000 and sign a vendor agreement that they will not use banned items, and keep their surroundings clean. It was also advised that visitors should always carry their own bags to reduce the number of single-use paper bags. Mineral water bottles are banned at Lalbagh, so carrying own reusable bottles is best, these can be refilled on premises. For food service of police and staff, reusable steel plates will be used, which has been blocked well in advance - this step to reduce disposables must be appreciated." Beautiful Bharat and Saahas, along with Indian Ploggers Army, will volunteer to help collect waste through plogging during the flower show. Raj from Ploggers Army highlighted the community's role, "With the show round the corner, we decided to create awareness on anti-littering and BYOC (Bring Your Own Container) so that people who visit Lalbagh are more aware and prepared. The authorities are working towards a litter-free Lalbagh, but the onus lies predominantly on vendors, public and the visitors."

The Horticulture Department is expecting a large crowd this year and has appointed many workers to ensure the premises remain clean, with trash bins cleared regularly. This initiative aims to maintain the beauty of Lalbagh Botanical Garden and promote environmental responsibility among all attendees. — BMB

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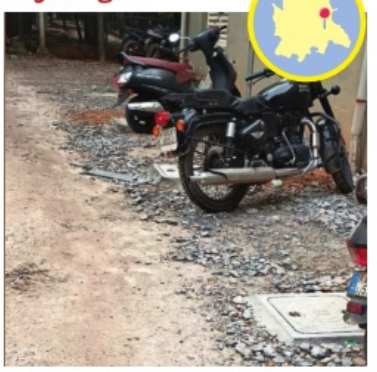
Garbage menace

Anjanapura

Garbage accumulation on the 8th main road, Kothanur road, Anjanapura ward is attracting several dogs and cows, and is acting as a mosquito breeding ground.

Poor metro parking

Jayanagar



The Jayanagar Metro vehicle parking space remains problematic. Despite significant profits and additional charges collected for parking, the area remains unpaved and filled with stones. Visitors are forced to park their cars and bikes on this uneven terrain.

Animal negligence

Kanakapura Road

Stray cattle at Kanakapura Road Metro stations are a safety hazard, especially with dim lighting masking their presence. This issue is compounded by ongoing Metro construction work.

CRIME FILES

Gold & more: Loot worth ₹28L seized

Here's a round-up of all the stolen items city police managed to track down

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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

The Soladevanahalli Police apprehended an individual who was involved in a series of robberies that occurred both during the day and night and seized a significant amount of stolen property, including 101 grammes of gold jewellery, two laptops, two two-wheelers, and other items, with a total value exceeding Rs 28 lakh. The investigation was initiated on March 10, 2024, when a resident of Vinayaka Layout in Chikkabanavara filed a complaint regarding the theft. A suspect was apprehended on the Kunigal Bypass on July 22, who has admitted to the robbery and revealed that 50 grammes of the stolen gold were still at his residence, while the remaining 51 grammes had been sold to a jewellery shop located in the Hassan district. The arrest of this individual led to the resolution of five night theft cases within the jurisdiction of the Soladevanahalli Police Station. On July 29, the court remanded him to judicial custody.

Gold & silver coins robbery

Three suspects have been arrested by Marathahalli police for their involvement in the robbery of gold and diamond jewellery valued between Rs 50-60 lakh following a complaint on July 5 about the theft of gold and diamond coins from a victim's house. During the interrogation on July 17, one of the seven housemaids working at the house admitted to the robbery that led to the recovery of some of the stolen jewellery. Later, two suspects were subsequently brought before the court, and further inquiry revealed that other stolen items had been handed over to an acquaintance in Ejipura. The accused was arrested on July 21, and gold jewellery worth Rs 30 lakh was recovered from him. It was found that the stolen property had been sold in several jewellery shops in Ejipura, police said.

Four minors arrested for theft

The Peenya police have arrested four minors in connection with a robbery that occurred on July 14. The suspects were apprehended with stolen items, including a 30-gramme gold chain, two two-wheelers, and an auto rickshaw, collectively valued at Rs 4 lakh. Acting on leads, the police arrested four boys near Gangondanahalli Main Road at the Peenya border on July 24. During the arrest, they also seized an autorickshaw and a two-wheeler involved in the crime.

Laptops & pendrive theft

A sales executive was arrested by the Ramamurthy Nagar Police Station on July 24 for stealing laptops and pen drives from a local electronics showroom. A complaint was filed by the showroom manager on July 23, reporting the theft of three HP laptops, one Dell laptop, and 16 HP pen drives during the first two weeks of July. Confessing to the theft, the suspect revealed that he had sold one HP laptop and 11 HP pen drives to unknown buyers and admitted to keeping the remaining three laptops and five pen drives at his residence, which were later seized. On July 25, the court remanded him to judicial custody.

Cellphones theft

A man has been arrested by the Whitefield Police for stealing a mobile phone and subsequently found in possession of 32 stolen phones valued at Rs 4.5 lakh. The arrest followed a complaint lodged on July 19, after a student's phone was stolen on Vijaynagar Main Road. Following the investigation, the police apprehended a suspect near an Urdu school in the same area with two mobile phones in his possession. During interrogation, the accused confessed to the theft and disclosed that he had stolen a total of 30 phones, which he had stored at a labour shed. Police seized all 32 phones from the location. On July 23, the court extended his remand to judicial custody.

13 stolen phones recovered

An individual has been arrested for stealing mobile phones, with 13 stolen phones valued at Rs 1.50 lakh recovered. The incident occurred on July 17, when three unknown individuals on a two-wheeler threatened a victim with a knife and stole his mobile phone in B Narayanpura. The victim promptly filed a complaint at the Mahadevapura Police Station. Aided by informants, the police identified and stopped three suspects on a two-wheeler within the Banaswadi Police Station limits. While two suspects managed to flee, one was apprehended and brought to the police station. The suspect has confessed to the theft and disclosed the theft details. On July 18, the accused was remanded to police custody for five days. During further interrogation, the accused revealed the location of 12 additional stolen phones at his home, which were seized by the police. On July 22, the accused was remanded to judicial custody, police said.

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Mysuru March: 2 BJP leaders not on same page

Parallel march is sought to highlight financial irregularities in Karnataka Maharshi Valmiki Scheduled Tribes Development Corporation Ltd

The opposition BJP and JD(S) have decided to hold a foot march from Bengaluru to Mysuru from August 3 to 10 in protest against the fraudulent allotment of sites to land losers by MUDA

As Bharatiya Janata Party prepares for a foot march over the alleged Mysuru Urban Development Authority (MUDA) site allotment scam seeking to corner the Congress government and Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, two party leaders have struck a discordant note much to its discomfiture. BJP MLAs Basangouda Patil Yatnal and Ramesh Jarkiholi have sought approval from the party's central leadership to organise a "parallel march" to put the government on the mat by highlighting the alleged financial irregularities in the Karnataka Maharshi Valmiki Scheduled Tribes Development Corporation Ltd. In fact, the two legislators have been openly critical of the party state President BY Vijayendra accusing him of indulging in "adjustment politics" and trying to keep the party in his clutches along with his father and veteran party leader BS Yediyurappa.

The opposition BJP and Janata Dal (Secular) have decided to hold a foot march from Bengaluru to Mysuru from August 3 to 10 in protest against the alleged fraudulent allotment of sites to land losers by MUDA. The parallel march, sought to be spearheaded by the two BJP leaders, is proposed from Ballari to Bengaluru, with a major focus on financial irregularities in the state-run corporation, along with MUDA scam and alleged diversion of Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe funds by the government to its five guarantee schemes, sources said. "Vijayendra has to reveal whether this fight is to ensure Siddaramaiah steps down to make DK Shivakumar the Chief Minister. Vijayendra is doing the 'padayatre' (foot march) as per the orders of DK Shivakumar to make Siddaramaiah step down. There is adjustment politics in this. As a mark of gratitude to Shivakumar, Vijayendra is organising this 'padayatre'," Yatnal alleged.

The Valmiki Corporation scam is a "big one", the money that should have gone to the welfare of the ST community has been misused, he said. "On the other hand in the MUDA scam a Dalit's land has been taken away. So on all the issues we are fighting, our fight is against Congress' corruption, without any adjustment politics," Yatnal further said after getting approval from the party he, Ramesh Jarkiholi and others will decide on undertaking the 'padayatre.'

> **"We request the party to make a historic decision to bring it out from the clutches of father & son (Yediyurappa & Vijayendra) and their blackmail.** – Jarkiholi, BJP MLA

Stating that their 'padayatre' will be under collective leadership, Jarkiholi said: "...(Valmiki Corporation scam) is an important issue, MUDA is personal (issue involving CM). Community (ST) funds have been completely misused (in Valmiki Corporation scam)." "Also SC/ST funds have been used for guarantee schemes (by this government). Let the MUDA issue also be taken up, but SC/ST funds are more important and our request is that we have to fight regarding it," he added.

"We request the party to make a historic decision to bring the party out from the clutches of father and son (Yediyurappa and Vijayendra), and their blackmail," Jarkiholi said.

The illegal money transfer issue, involving the state-run corporation, came to the fore, after its accounts superintendent, Chandrasekharan P, died by suicide on May 26, leaving behind a note. The note revealed the unauthorised transfer of Rs 187 crore belonging to the corporation from its bank account, and from that, Rs. 88.62 crore was illegally moved to various accounts allegedly belonging to "well-known" IT companies and a Hyderabad-based cooperative bank among others.

According to reports, not everyone in JD(S) is happy about the 'padayatre', as a few of its leaders have expressed apprehensions about the possibility of BJP trying to steal limelight through this march in the old Mysuru region, which has traditionally been the regional party's stronghold. **– PTI**

NAAC to implement AI technology for streamlined accreditation process

Sridhar Vivan
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The National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) is set to adopt Artificial Intelligence (AI) technology to streamline and enhance the efficiency of its accreditation process. This new system will be operational from September, aiming to make the process easier and efficient. AI technology will assist in data collection, processing, and analysis, significantly reducing the need for human intervention. It will also aid in categorizing institutions into various sectors. The decision to incorporate AI stems from the recommendations of the Dr Radhakrishnan Committee on NAAC reforms. Staff training on this new technology has already been completed.

According to the Ministry of Human Resource Development, there are 1,284 universities, 50,577 colleges, and 13,921 institutions in India. Since 2015, it has been mandatory for institutions to obtain NAAC accreditation to be eligible for central funding. Consequently, many colleges are keen to secure NAAC accreditation.

An official said, "AI technology will be primarily used in data processing, employing crowdsourcing methods to gather secondary data and binary accreditation first-stage data. This approach will help identify any missing data and rectify small errors that were previously difficult for NAAC to detect."

Previously, a peer team would visit colleges to review the criteria set by NAAC, and colleges would submit their self-assessment scores to NAAC. With the new system, colleges will perform self-assessments and send their reports directly to NAAC. The data will then be reviewed using AI

technology, and colleges will only be asked to provide additional information if there is any suspicion or discrepancy.

"It will be known exactly how colleges have progressed in which field and in what way. This shift to AI technology promises a more precise, transparent, and efficient accreditation process, ensuring that institutions meet the required standards for central funding and overall educational quality," said Prof Ganesan Kannabiran, Director of NAAC.

Beer prices surge again: ₹5-20 hike per bottle

Fifth increase in 1.5 years as manufacturers blame rising raw material costs

Beer lovers will face yet another price hike, with costs set to rise by Rs 5-20 per bottle. This marks the fifth increase in 1.5 years. Prices for some brands have already gone up, while others will see the new rates implemented on Tuesday and Wednesday. Consequently, all beer brands will see a minimum increase of Rs 5 to Rs 20 per bottle. The government had raised the tax on beer starting July 1, resulting in an initial hike of at least Rs 10 per bottle. Now, beer manufacturers have decided to further increase prices by Rs 5-20 per bottle due to the rising costs of raw materials.

Sources said that many popular brands will also see price increases, albeit by a smaller margin. This adds to the financial burden on beer lovers, who are still adjusting to the previous hikes. Rajesh Kumar, a consumer, said, "These constant price hikes are making it difficult to keep up. It's not fair that we have to bear the brunt of these increases." However, the increase in raw material costs, including barley and other ingredients used in beer production, along with higher diesel taxes, have prompted all beer companies to raise their prices. Some companies have already implemented these changes, while others will follow suit in the next two days.

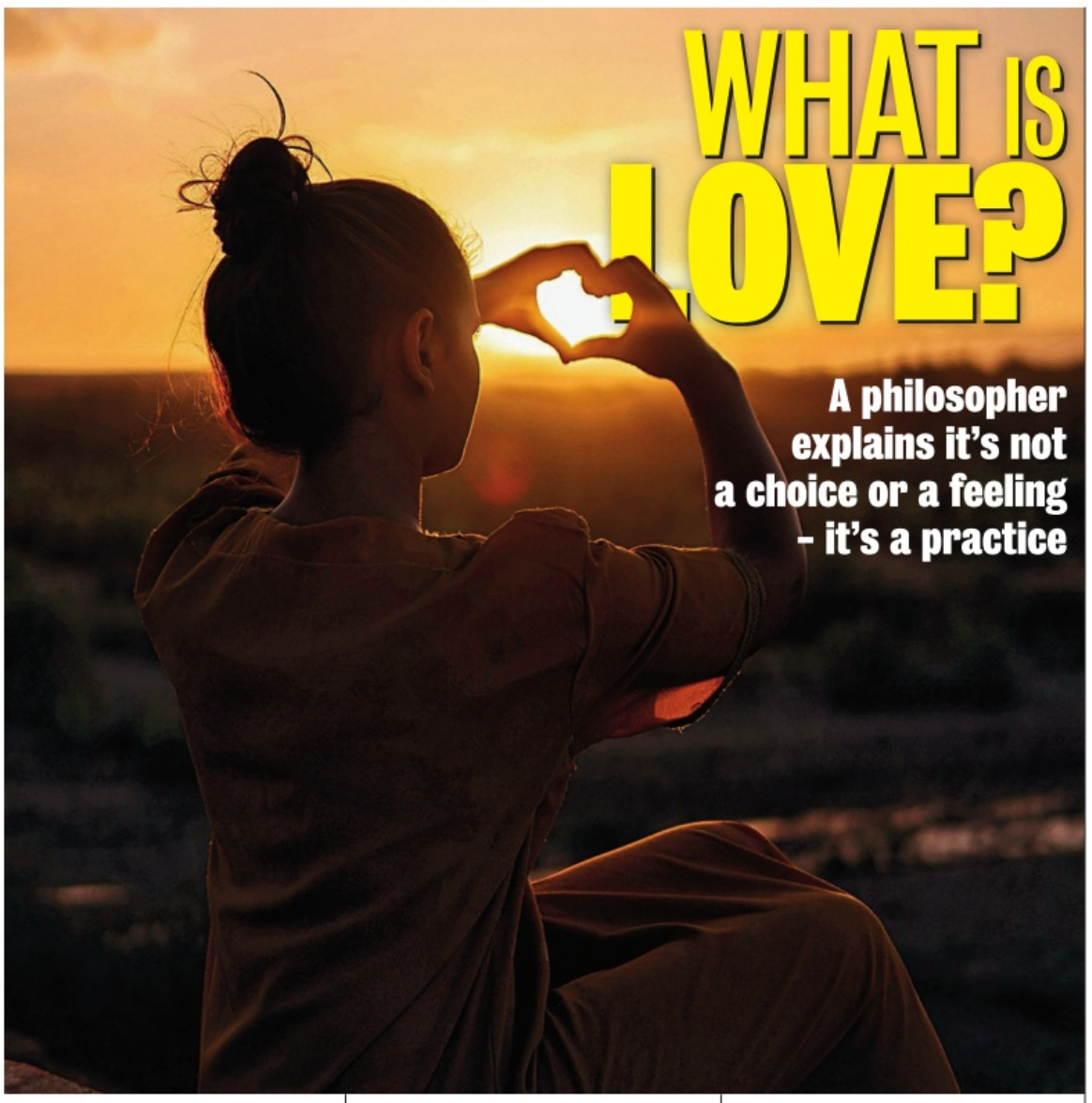
> **However, the beer industry is growing rapidly, with sales risen over 5.5 times in the last 10 years**

This is the fifth price hike for beer within the last year. Previous increases occurred in February 2023, following a budget announcement by the then BJP government, which had not increased the tax on beer and liquor. However, after the Congress government took over, they raised the additional excise duty on beer and liquor by 10% in the 2023-24 budget. In the 2024-25 budget, the government increased the tax on beer again. Due to the Lok Sabha election code of conduct, this tax hike came into effect on July 1. Beer companies have now decided to implement yet another price increase.

However, despite these frequent price hikes, demand for beer continues to rise. The beer sales are increasing by around 5.5 times over the last 10 years. **– BMB**

HEALTH TIP: Dates are high in fibre, potassium, and iron, also making them an excellent healthy alternative to sugar

Litchi contains vitamin C, which aids in the treatment of a common cold obtained during the monsoon



WHAT IS LOVE?

A philosopher explains it's not a choice or a feeling – it's a practice

Love is confusing. People in the US Google the word "love" about 1.2 million times a month. Roughly a quarter of those searches ask "what is love" or request a "definition of love."

What is all this confusion about?

Neuroscience tells us that love is caused by certain chemicals in the brain. For example, when you meet someone special, the hormones dopamine and norepinephrine can trigger a reward response that makes you want to see this person again. Like tasting chocolate, you want more.

Your feelings are the result of these chemical reactions. Around a crush or best friend, you probably feel something like excitement, attraction, joy and affection. You light up when they walk into the room. Over time, you might feel comfort and trust. Love between a parent and child feels different, often some combination of affection and care.

But are these feelings, caused by chemical reactions in your brain, all that love is? If so, then love seems to be something that largely happens to you. You'd have as much control over falling in love as you'd have over accidentally falling in a hole – not much.

As a philosopher who studies love, I'm interested in the different ways people have understood love throughout history. Many thinkers have believed that love is more than a feeling.

More than a feeling

The ancient Greek philosopher Plato thought that love might cause feelings like attraction and pleasure, which are out of your control. But these feelings are less important than the loving relationships you choose to form as a result: lifelong bonds between people who help one another change and grow into their best selves.

Similarly, Plato's student Aristotle claimed that, while relationships built on feelings like pleasure are common, they're less good for humankind than relationships built on goodwill and shared virtues. This is because Aristotle thought relationships built on feelings last only as long as the feelings last.

Imagine you start a relationship with someone you have little in common with other than you both enjoy playing video games. Should either of you no longer enjoy gaming, nothing would hold the relationship together. Because the relationship is built on pleasure, it will fade once the pleasure is gone.

Compare this with a relationship where you want to be together not because of a shared pleasure but because you admire one another for who you are. You want what is best for one another. This kind of friendship built on shared virtue and goodwill will be much longer lasting. These kinds of friends will support each other as they change and grow.

Plato and Aristotle both thought that love is more than a feeling. It's a bond between people who admire one another and therefore choose to support one another over time.

Maybe, then, love isn't totally out of your control.

Celebrating individuality and 'standing in love'

Contemporary philosopher J David Velleman also thinks that love can be disentangled from "the likings and longings" that come with it – those butterflies in your stomach. This is because love isn't just a feeling. It's a special kind of paying attention, which celebrates a person's individuality.

Velleman says Dr. Seuss did a good job describing what it means to celebrate a person's individuality when he wrote: "Come on! Open your mouth and sound off at the sky! Shout loud at the top of your voice, 'I AM I! ME! I am I!'" When you love someone, you celebrate them because you value the "I AM I" that they are.

You can also get better at love. Social psychologist Erich Fromm thinks that loving is a skill that takes practice: what he calls "standing in love." When you stand in love, you act in certain ways toward a person.

Just like learning to play an instrument, you can also get better at loving with patience, concentration and discipline. This is because standing in love is made up of other skills such as listening carefully and being present. If you get better at these skills, you can get better at loving.

If this is the case, then love and friendship are distinct from the feelings that accompany them. Love and friendship are bonds formed by skills you choose to practice and improve.

Does this mean you could stand in love with someone you hate, or force yourself to stand in love with someone you have no feelings for whatsoever?

Probably not. Philosopher Virginia Held explains the difference between doing an activity and participating in a practice as simply doing some labor versus doing some labor while also enacting values and standards.

Compare a math teacher who mechanically solves a problem at the board versus a teacher who provides students a detailed explanation of the solution. The mechanical teacher is doing the activity – presenting the solution – whereas the engaged teacher is participating in the practice of teaching. The engaged teacher is enacting good teaching values and standards, such as creating a fun learning environment.

Standing in love is a practice in the same sense. It's not just a bunch of activities you perform. To really stand in love is to do these activities while enacting loving values and standards, such as empathy, respect, vulnerability, honesty and, if Velleman is right, celebrating a person for who they truly are.

How much control do you have over love? Is it best to understand love as a feeling or a choice?

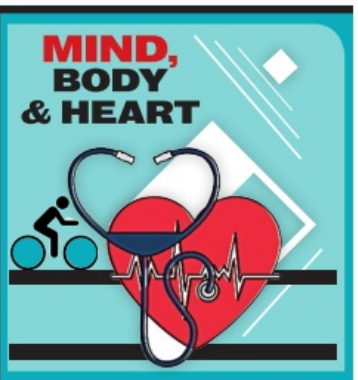
Think about what happens when you break up with someone or lose a friend. If you understand love purely in terms of the feelings it stirs up, the love is over once these feelings disappear, change or get put on hold by something like a move or a new school.

On the other hand, if love is a bond you choose and practice, it will take much more than the disappearance of feelings or life changes to end it. You or your friend might not hang out for a few days, or you might move to a new city, but the love can persist.

If this understanding is right, then love is something you have more control over than it may seem. Loving is a practice. And, like any practice, it involves activities you can choose to do – or not do – such as hanging out, listening and being present. In addition, practicing love will involve enacting the right values, such as respect and empathy.

While the feelings that accompany love might be out of your control, how you love someone is very much in your control.

Edith Gwendolyn Nally, University of Missouri-Kansas City, The Conversation



All you need to know about...

What Is paper clipping?

Remember Clippy, the infamous Microsoft Office assistant who would frequently pop up with unsolicited advice in Word? The paper clipping dating trend is named after Clippy, drawing inspiration from his intrusive nature. The trend refers to the phenomenon where potential love interests from the past resurface intermittently on your social media to ask frivolous questions without explaining why they ghosted you in the first place. Either way, the common thread is that it's always only small talk when you answer their questions, without the conversation going anywhere.
Additionally, paper clipping also covers situations when someone keeps you on the back burner; when they feel you're about to go cold on them, they'll reach out in an attempt to see you, just to re-stoke the flame enough and ensure you're still an option for them.

Watch for Signs
Understanding the signs of paper clipping can help you avoid being a victim of it. Recognise the pattern and don't engage in unnecessary conversation.

Set Boundaries
Let's be firm about this: it's best to block/unfriend anyone who ghosts you. If they still manage to reach out to you without a clear purpose, be upfront about your expectations.

Focus
When you treat yourself the way you're supposed to and know your worth, you're less likely to be swayed by someone who isn't offering you anything genuine.
Move On
Unless your ex provides a valid explanation for their ghosting, it's best to remember how you felt during that time and avoid letting it happen again.

—Femina

Lost dog returns home travelling alone for 250 km to Belagavi

Yamagarni village in Nipani taluk of Belagavi district recently witnessed a strange sight. A jubilant crowd paraded a black indie dog covered in garlands and held a feast in its honour. For the villagers, the return of the dog, which had been lost, is a miracle.

Fondly called Maharaj, the animal which is well past its prime, was lost in the crowd in the pilgrimage town of Pandharpur in South Maharashtra, but made its way back to the village in Belagavi in North Karnataka, travelling nearly 250km on its own.

In the last week of June, Maharaj had followed its owner Kamalesh Kumbhar when he went on his annual 'Wari padayatra' trip to Pandharpur.

Kumbhar, a 'Warkari', said he visits Pandharpur every year on Ashadha Ekadashi and Kartiki Ekadashi.

This time, the dog too accompanied him, he said. "Maharaj has always liked listening to bhajans. Once, he had accompanied me on another padayatra trip to Jyotiba temple near Mahabaleshwar," Kumbhar told PTI. For nearly 250 km, the dog followed the master, who walked with a group of his friends, chanting bhajans.

After the darshan at Vithoba temple, Kumbhar said he noticed that the dog was missing. When he went looking for him, he said people over there told him that the dog had left with another group. "I still searched for him everywhere and I could not find him. So, I thought maybe the people were right, that he left with someone else. I returned to my home town on July 14," Kumbhar said.

The very next day though, Kumbhar said, to his surprise "Maharaj was standing there in front of my house, wagging his tail as if nothing had happened. He looked well fed and perfectly fine."

Overcome with happiness, Kumbhar said, he and the villagers celebrated Maharaj's return with a feast. "It is such a miracle that the dog could find its way, although it was 250km or so away from home. We think it was Lord Panduranga who guided him." **PTI**

BCCI hints at settlement talks with Byju's, NCLAT adjourns matter to Wednesday

The BCCI on Tuesday sought a day's adjournment at appellate insolvency tribunal NCLAT, saying talks are going on with Byju's, hinting at the possibility of a settlement.

When the hearing on the plea filed by Byju's promoter against insolvency proceedings started at The National Company Law Appellate Tribunal (NCLAT), Solicitor General of India Tushar Mehta -- appearing for the cricket body -- informed the bench that "some talks" are on.

He requested the bench to adjourn for a day, which was accepted by the new bench.

Senior advocate Mukul Rohatagi was appearing for a US-based creditor Gas Trust LLC, which is claiming default of Rs 8,000 crore loans.

Byju's Founder Byju Raveendran's plea was listed before a new bench comprising Justice Rakesh Kumar Jain and Jatindranath Swain.

On Monday, Justice Sharad Kumar Sharma had recused from the hearing and said he had earlier appeared as the counsel for the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) before his elevation.

The NCLAT was hearing a petition filed by Raveendran challenging the initiation of insolvency proceedings against Think & Learn, which runs the edtech company Byju's. **PTI**

Cumbersome process proving hurdle to scheme adoption

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

villages are in a better position to convince farmers to avail of the scheme than a big pump manufacturer in Bengaluru. We have been advising KREDL to bring in an online system to enable participation by local integrators at taluk and village levels," said Ramesh Shivanna, president of the Karnataka Renewable Energy Systems Manufacturers Association (KREDLE).

The report by CSE underlines that Karnataka, among a handful of other states in the country, provides free electricity for irrigation, and effective implementation of the scheme would help decrease the burden of subsidies from the state government apart from saving financial losses for the DISCOMs.

Solar water pumps would help ease this subsidy burden by eradicating the need for tariff subsidies for farmers who shift from electric water pumps to solar water pumps.

Procedural hiccups

However, experts say the scheme that was launched in 2019 with a vision to solarise agriculture in India and help farmers with access to reliable irrigation technology suffers from other procedural aspects. Apart from issues with vendor empanelment, they also underline the matter of subsidies to the farmers routed through the nodal agency, Karnataka Renewable Energy Development Limited (KREDL).

"Apart from the 30% subsidy to farmers under the scheme by the Centre, the state has also announced a 50% subsidy. However, it is routed through the nodal agency KREDL, which makes the process cumbersome. For instance, a small integrator in Raichur district will not take up the installation of solar pumps if that will require them to come to the KREDL office in Bengaluru to collect the subsidy. We are suggesting that the 30% subsidy should be transferred to the farmers directly," added Shivanna.

Sources at KREDL told BM that another reason for the slow adoption of the scheme is the delay in the release of the subsidy amount by the state government.

"We have received a considerable number of applications under the scheme, but we are unable to take them forward as the subsidy from the state government is yet to be released."

Bus stop flop

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

shelter near Baiyappanahalli.

At a bus shelter situated near Indiranagar BMTC Bus Depot, the situation is similarly dire. "The bus shelter is not in a good condition. The authorities must construct a new bus shelter as the existing one was constructed a long time ago," said Ashok K, a commuter.

The vacant space near the bus shelter at Halasuru has become a nuisance for the commuters waiting here for buses. "The BBMP solid waste department has failed to keep this place clean. A few people use it as an open toilet to attend nature's call at night. It will benefit the BMTC commuters as well as the BBMP if the vacant space is rented out to private concerns," said Manikyam M, a resident.

There are four bus shelters near the BWSSB Office on Swami Vivekananda Road opposite INOX Lido and the condition of two bus shelters is pathetic. "The space between the compound wall and the bus shelters is not clean. The uneven footpath poses danger to unwary pedestrians and the BMTC commuters. I have complained to the authorities but nothing has been done," said BR Chandran, a social activist.

When informed, BBMP assistant executive engineer Murthy said that he would ask his subordinate to visit the bus shelters on Swami Vivekananda Road. "I will ask the solid waste management department to ensure cleanliness at the bus shelters," said the BBMP assistant executive engineer.

However, BBMP Executive Engineer (Traffic Engineering Cell) was not available for comment.

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I, Ranganath Reddy Polimera, Given name: Polimera Surname: Ranganath Reddy R/o: Mirabilis, Flat No C404, Horamavu, Bangalore-43 have changed my Name as Polimera Ranganath Reddy. Given name : Ranganath Reddy, Surname: Polimera vide affidavit dt: 29.07.2024 sworn before Notary B.SESHAGIRI

I Sameena Parveen W/o, Syed Imran Ahmed, R/o, Flat No 202, 1st Floor, Wheelers Pride Apts, Wheelers Road Extn, Cooke Town, Bengaluru 560005, have changed my minor sons name Taha Ahmed to Syed Taha Ahmed for all purposes.

I, Bimla Rani Grover W/o Krishan Kumar Grover R/o B-103, Paranjape wind fields, Yamalur Rd, Kempapura Bellandur B'luru 560037 have changed my name to Bimla Grover Affidavit Dt.30/07/2024 notary Harisha G, B'luru

I, Rajesh Kumar S/O Late Umashanker Rai R/O D332,SLS Square Apartment, EPIP Phase 2, (Next to Capgemini), Whitefield, Bangalore-560066, have changed my name to Rajesh Kumar Rai.

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Wayanad landslides

Death toll reaches 93; 3,069 people in relief camps

Kerala CM says entire area wiped out; rescue operations on to pull those trapped in debris

An aerial shot of the devastation caused in Wayanad on Tuesday

Kerala CM says entire area wiped out; rescue operations on to pull those trapped in debris

Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan said on Tuesday that 93 bodies have been recovered and 128 people have been injured after massive landslides hit hilly areas near Meppadi in Kerala's Wayanad district.

He further said that 3,069 people are in 45 relief camps in Wayanad alone, and five ministers are coordinating the efforts of the relief and rescue operations.

Addressing the press conference, Vijayan said, "The landslide in Wayanad is a heart-wrenching disaster. There was extremely heavy rainfall. An entire area has been wiped out. We have recovered 93 bodies so far, but the numbers may change. There are 128 people receiving treatment for injuries. Many who went to sleep last night have been swept away."

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has offered assistance after 93 people died and 128 were injured following massive landslides in Wayanad.

"Upon learning of the disaster, both the Prime Minister and Rahul Gandhi, along with various party leaders, have offered their assistance. They have assured us that we will work together to address this crisis," he said.

The chief minister said that the state government has arranged the best possible treatment for the injured, adding that several people are still trapped under the debris and rescue operations are underway.

"Many people are still trapped under the debris. We have opened 45 relief camps in Wayanad and a total of 118 camps across the state, accommodating 5,531 people. The fire force, NDRF, and police are working together. Various divisions of the Army and Navy are coordinating the rescue operations," he added.

Elaborating about the relief operations, said, "321 members of the Fire Force have been deployed in Wayanad. The services of the Army have also been made available. An NDRF team of 60 members has reached Wayanad, and an 89-member team from Bengaluru is on the way".

Pinarayi Vijayan expressed grief over the deaths saying that the landslide incident in Wayanad is a heart-wrenching disaster.

"Additional Kaniv 108 ambulances have been brought in. 3,069 people are in relief camps in Wayanad alone. Five ministers are coordinating the efforts. Due to adverse weather conditions, people were relocated, and an orange alert was declared. A dog squad will be arriving for the rescue operations," he said.

Furthermore, he informed that senior NDRF personnel are coordinating the rescue operation in the area.

"The IG of the Northern Range, DIG, and the Additional DG of Law and Order will coordinate the operations," said CM.

"Steps have been initiated to deliver food and essential supplies. Two vehicles carrying 20,000 litres of drinking water will arrive at the disaster area. Health workers currently on leave are instructed to return to duty immediately. Nothing can replace the loss of loved ones or possessions, but we must extend our support and lift those affected, " he added.

In the wake of the landslides in Wayanad, the CM urged people to come together to aid those suffering.

"More assistance is needed to rebuild the region. I urge everyone to contribute to the Chief Minister's Disaster Relief Fund (CMDRF) and provide support. Those who can should make donations. The arrival of unnecessary vehicles is causing significant blockages and must be strictly avoided. Everyone must be prepared to cooperate," he said.

"The local administration has been directed to ensure that drinking water, food, and other essentials are provided to those in the camps. The IG of the Northern Range, DIG, and the Additional DG of Law and Order will coordinate the operations. Everyone must avoid situations where people are merely spectators at disaster sites. Control rooms have been established under various government departments. I have instructed that officials in essential services be prepared and on standby due to the heavy rain conditions."

The Navy team is being dispatched, at the request of Chief Minister Pinrayi Vijayan, who sought the help of the Navy's River Crossing team, according to the Chief Minister's Office. Around 200 Indian Army personnel from DSC Centre Kannur and 122 TA Battalion from Kozhikode were dispatched to the site. A team of 30 specialist swimmers from the Indian Navy has been deployed. The India Meteorological Department has issued a red alert for eight districts in the state for heavy rainfall.

—ANI

'Took me long to overcome Tokyo...'

PARIS OLYMPICS 2024

Following her historic bronze medal win at the Paris Olympics with Sarabjot Singh in the 10 m air pistol mixed team event, star shooter Manu Bhaker opened up on her weapon malfunction during the previous Olympics and how she had a difficult time overcoming it to reach where she is right now.

India's shooting ace Manu Bhaker made history on Tuesday when she became the first Indian woman to win two medals at the same Olympics. Bhaker and her partner Sarabjot Singh secured bronze in the 10 M air pistol mixed team event. Earlier, Bhaker had won bronze in the women's individual 10M air pistol event.

Talking to JioCinema after her medal win, Bhaker said, "Okay, so after Tokyo, I was very disappointed and how the events turned out to be for me was not very good. It took me a long time to overcome that. However, I came back stronger. So what is now is what matters. The past shall remain in the past."

On Monday, Manu-Sarabjot secured 580-20x points in total to finish third, The gold medal match will take place between Turkiye (582-18x) and Serbia (581-24x).

—ANI

FARNAZ

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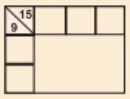
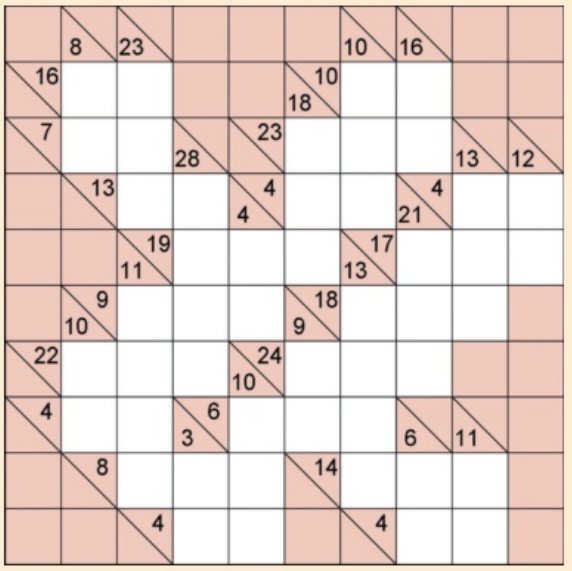
Kakuro

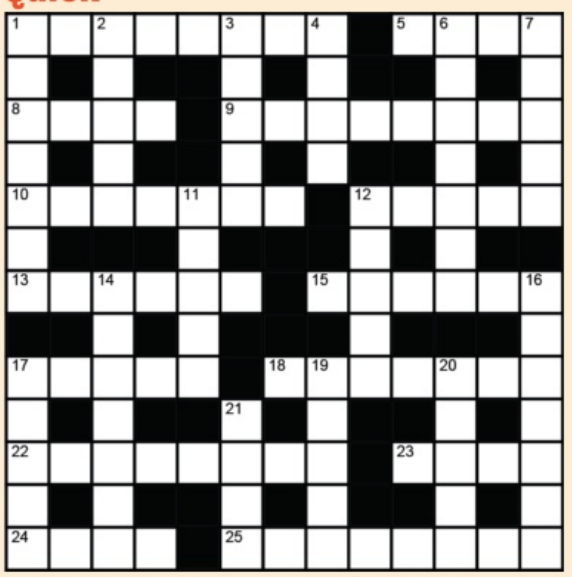
The numbers in the grey squares refer to the sums of the digits that you must fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the grey square containing the number. For instance, in the given example, the 3 boxes horizontally next to 15 must contain 3 digits that add up to 15, whereas for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.



Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.



Quick



ACROSS

1 Fills with air (8)
5 Water in Latin (4)
8 Taverns (4)
9 Coming before in position or time (8)
10 One of two metro stations in the Ulsoor area (7)
12 Waned or receded (5)
13 Young swan (6)
15 Stick (6)
17 Exhibits or displays (5)
18 Formed a queue? (5,2)
22 Brolly (8)
23 Causes irritation (4)
24 Flake off (4)
25 Snowstorm (8)

DOWN

1 Very stupid (7)
2 Mushrooms, toadstools etc (5)
3 Characteristic (5)
4 Becomes firm (4)
6 Find fault with; bicker or nag (7)
7 Bitterly pungent (5)
11 Notions (5)
12 Conclude with (3,2)
14 Farewell (7)
16 Laid bare, uncovered (7)
17 Base of felled tree (5)
19 Middle-Easterner (5)
20 Hindu goddess of war (5)
21 Not sincere (4)

Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Today's CLUE: C EQUALS D

CS PSZ JPAW Q FMPPJT; WSD CSP'Z EPSL LUQZ CMFQFZJT QLQMZF UMB.

Linemaro

You know what you would really look good in? My arms

Mindchow

Not everything that is faced can be changed, but nothing can be changed until it is faced

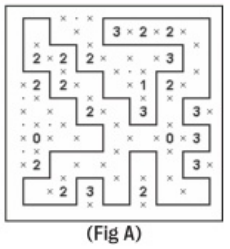
Joke of the day

Boxers don't have sex before a fight. Do you know why that is? They don't fancy each other

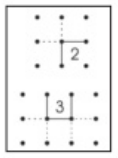
Loop

Rules

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.



(Fig A)

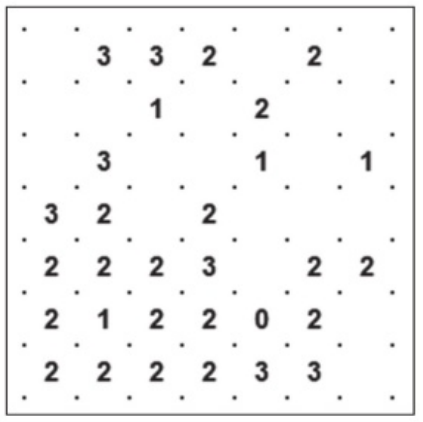


(Fig B) Not Allowed

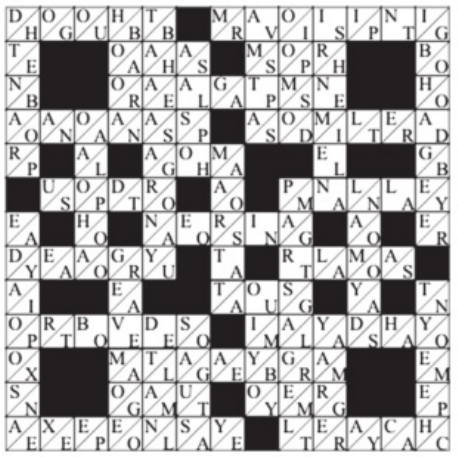
How to begin:

Example (Fig A) – Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)



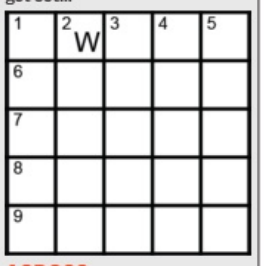
Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...



ACROSS

1 DS saw; 6 Iliac;
7 Staid; 8 Stele;
9 On Nay

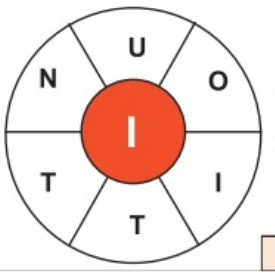
DOWN

1 As Iac; 2 Wined;
3 Aline; 4 Id Tot;
5 Says S

Mensapuzzle

Solve this dingbat:

Bull's eye



How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

03 Average; 04 Good; 05 Outstanding

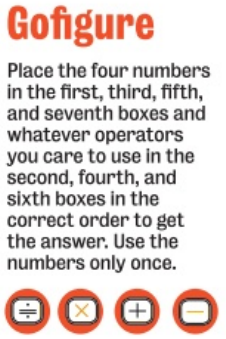
SudokuChallenge

3					8	4		
		8						
			2	6		1	5	
1	7				2			
		3		5		6		
			9				7	2
	3	7		2	6			
						2		
		4	1					9

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Gofigure

Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.



Hocusfocus

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

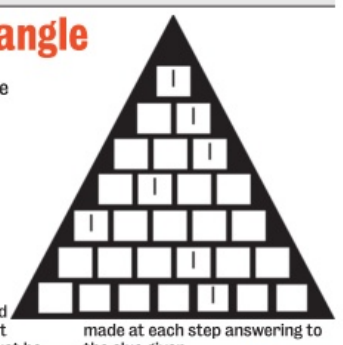
Differences: 1. Foot is different. 2. Man's finger is moved. 3. Hand is moved. 4. Man has more hair. 5. Hat is missing. 6. Mouth is different.

Riddler

What is the common link for these items?
bubble, cork, question

Alpha triangle

1 Egoistic letter
2 51 in ancient Rome
3 Boxing great
4 Call on a phone
5 Just right
6 In league
7 Dawdled



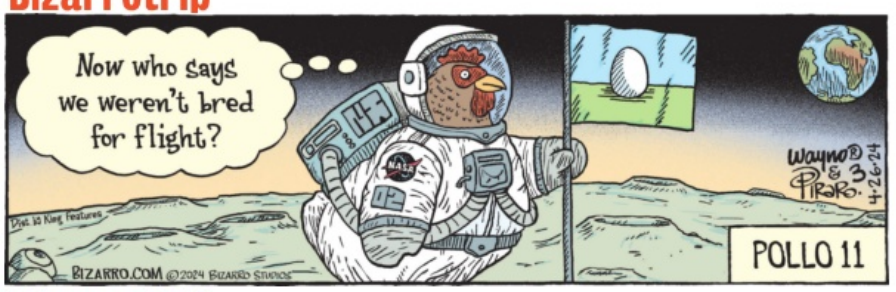
Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be made at each step answering to the clue given.

DIFFICULT TO SOLVE? FIND THESE SOLUTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE

COMICS

Popeye

Bizarrotrip



Diamond Lil

Hart of the city

KNOCK KNOCK
HEART!! YOU GOTTA COME OUTSIDE AND STOP BINGE-WATCHING TV. IT'S NOT EVEN RAINING ANYMORE!
FORGET ABOUT ME, KAT. I'M DONE FOR. I'M ONE WITH THE TELEVISION.
HHISSS

Crankshaft

I MISS YOUR STRIP TERRIBLY!
IT'S WHERE I WENT EVERY DAY FOR A SMILE, AN INSPIRATION AND A HUG!
MEET THE AUTHOR
YES, I LIVE A DEPRIVED LIFE.
SPEAKING AS SOMEONE WHO HAS SPENT MOST OF THE LAST FIFTY YEARS IN A ROOM BY HIMSELF...
WE SOCIAL BUTTERFLIES HAVE TO STICK TOGETHER!
BATIUK & DAVIS

Mutts

WHAT YOUR STARS SAY TODAY

Aries Mar 21 – Apr 20
Today you may be busy at work. Your network may increase and with the help of network you are likely to get a big order in terms of business and work. You are likely to start innovation in partnership. You may get some investment in your business, which will increase your business in near future. Your emotional relationship with your spouse will be improved.

Taurus Apr 21 – May 20
Today you may find yourself in a self analysis state, which will bring some confidence in you. Your focus towards your goals is now clear, and you may get success to achieve your goal. Your creativity might improve and you will take interest in artefacts, movies, glamour and real life objects. At the end of the day, you may feel satisfied with your life. Your opponents are likely to be under control now.

Gemini May 21 – Jun 21
Today you are likely to use your creativity to renovate your house or office. Your focus towards your goals may be good. Overworking may tire your mind, which can create anxiety, restlessness and stress, which may affect your domestic life. Students are advised to study with focus and dedication.

Cancer Jun 22 – July 23
Today you may be dissatisfied. Peoples around you may not cooperate with you, and you are advised to keep patience. You are also advised to read documents carefully before signing any contracts. Making new investments in unimportant stuff may be bottleneck for you. Students are advised to study with patience.

Leo Jul 24 – Aug 23
Today you may be enthusiastic and more focused, which may speed up your postponed projects. Your subordinates may help you start a new project, which may give you profit in the near future. You may expect some short trips related to your family issues. Job seekers may hear a good news in terms of finding a job.

Virgo Aug 24 – Sep 23
Today you may be busy with family issues. You may take some important decisions on the domestic front. You should avoid making arguments in personal life. Your arrogance may affect in domestic harmony. You are advised to follow your intuition before making investments in the business.

Libra Sep 24 – Oct 22
Today your inner strength may help you to start some new innovations on the work front. You may likely to get a big order in your parental business, which will increase growth in the business. New responsibilities in your job may make you busy. Jobseekers might get good job. Relations with the spouse may be improved, which can maintain harmony in the family life.

Scorpio Oct 23 – Nov 22
Today you may feel dull, your health may not be good. You may be nervous .You may also feel anxious and restless. You are advised to postpone your important investments in business or real estates. You are advised to avoid rash driving. You should avoid long distance travelling. You are advised to do some meditation which will help you in controlling a messy situation.

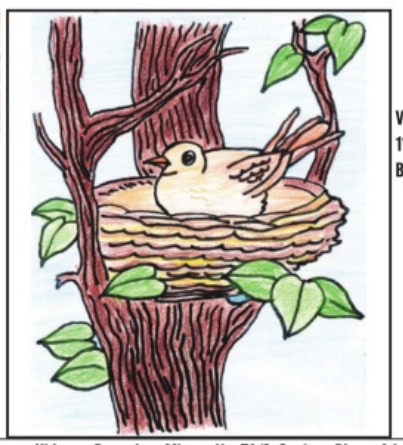
Sagittarius Nov 23 – Dec 22
Today blessing from elders' may make you happy. Your investments may give you profits and loses are converted into profits now. Your savings may boost your bank balance. You may plan to invest for your kid's future. You may also enjoy some delicious food at home. Your problems related to throat, teeth, ear or nose may get resolved now.

Capricorn Dec 23 – Jan 20
Today you are blessed by elders. Your patience becomes very good, your focus towards your work may also improve. Parent's health becomes good. You are likely to spend your time with elders. You may also meet some influential person, who may help you on the professional front. You may also enjoy your romantic moments which may increase harmony in your domestic life.

Aquarius Jan 21 – Feb 19
Today you may be spiritual and you may help needy people around you. You may also plan to donate some amount to charity or religious place. Your good karma may help you get success in your difficult projects. You may feel some divine power around you, and it may help you in unpredictable situations. You may be attracted by occult. Students are likely to enjoy higher studies.

Pisces Feb 20 – Mar 20
Today you may feel dull. You may be a victim of hidden fear, which may make you scared. You are not in a situation to trust anyone. It is advised to do meditation and chant some prayers which may help you overcome this hypothetical situation. With the help of elder's blessings around late evening, you may come out from this messy situation.

KIDZONE



V Dhanush, 11 Years, Bangalore

Saran V, 9 Years, Bangalore

Kidzone, Bangalore Mirror, No. 74/2, Sanjana Plaza, 4th & 5th Floor, Elephant Rock Road, Jayanagar 3rd block, Bengaluru-560 011;
Please send hard copies of your artwork in A4 size only.

SOLUTIONS

SOLVE IN 1M
$\sqrt{(21)^{2/3} \cdot (21)^{2/3} \cdot (21)^{2/3}}$
$\sqrt{[(21)^{2/3}]^3}$
$\sqrt{(21)^2}$
21

RIDDLER
They all can be popped.

QUOTE UNCODE
Do not envy a sinner; you don't know what disaster awaits him.

FAST FIVE

S	W	A	D	S
L	E	E	T	S
A	D	I	T	S
C	I	L	I	A
A	N	N	O	Y

STRIKE OUT

D	O	U	B	T	R	A	I	S	I	N	G			
E		A	H	A		M	P	H		O				
B		R	E	L	A	P	S	E		O				
A	N	A	N	A	S		S	O	I	L	E	D		
R	L		G	O	A		L		B					
U	P	T	O		O	M	A	N	U	L	Y			
A		H		N	O	R	I	A		O		E		
D	E	A	R	Y		T		R	A	M	A			
I		A		A	U	G		A		N				
P	R	O	V	E	S		M	A	Y	D	A	Y		
S		G	A	T		O	E	R		P				
O		A	L	G	E	B	R	A		M				
T		D		G		R		U		O				
S	H	O	W	S		L	I	N	E	D	U	P		
		O		A								X		
C	Y	G	N	E	T		A	D	H	E	R	E		
I		D		N		L								
T	R	I	N	I	T	Y		E	B	B	E	D		
O		G		I		S		B				I		
I	N	N	S		A	N	T	E	R	I	O	R		
D	U		R	E		U						C		
I	N	F	L	A	T	E	S		A	O	U	A		

QUICK

E	X	P	E	N	S	E		T	E	A	C	H		
S		G	A	T		O	E	R		P				
O		A	L	G	E	B	R	A		M				
P	R	O	V	E	S		M	A	Y	D	A	Y		
I		A		A	U	G		A		N				
D	E	A	R	Y		T		R	A	M	A			
A		H		N	O	R	I	A		O		E		
U	P	T	O		O	M	A	N	U	L	Y			
R	L		G	O	A		L		B					
A	N	A	N	A	S		S	O	I	L	E	D		
B		R	E	L	A	P	S	E		O				
E		A	H	A		M	P	H		O				
D	O	U	B	T	R	A	I	S	I	N	G			

MENSA PUZZLE
dashing-through-the-snow

BULL'S EYE
into, intuit, tint, TUITION, unit

SUDOKU

6	2	4	1	8	5	7	3	9
8	5	1	3	7	9	2	6	4
9	3	7	4	2	6	8	1	5
4	8	6	9	3	1	5	7	2
2	9	3	8	5	7	6	4	1
1	7	5	6	4	2	9	8	3
7	4	9	2	6	3	1	5	8
5	1	8	7	9	4	3	2	6
3	6	2	5	1	8	4	9	7

ALPHA TRIANGLE
i, Li, Ali, Dial, Ideal, Allied, Dallied.

LOOP

GO FIGURE
Easy
4 + 6 + 6 + 7 = 23
Medium
8 + 6 + 8 − 6 = 16
Hard
7 + 2 − 4 x 1 = 5

KAKURO

Volume No 17, Issue No 152 RNI NO:KARENG/2007/21142 Published for the Proprietors, Metropolitan Media Company Ltd by R.J. Prakashan at No. 74/2, Sanjana Plaza, 4th & 5th Floor, Elephant Rock Road, Jayanagar 3rd block, Bengaluru-560 011 and printed by him at Bennett Coleman & Co Ltd., The Times of India Press, No. 9/10/11-A, 4th Main, KIADB Bommasandra Industrial Area, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore - 560 099 (Phones : Press : 080-22899999; Editorial : 080-40877666, Fax – 40877545, Registered Office: No. 74/2, Sanjana Plaza, 4th & 5th Floor, Elephant Rock Road, Jayanagar 3rd block, Bengaluru - 560 011, Email : mybangaloremirror@timesofindia.com Editor : Ms. Seena Menon - responsible for selection of news under PRB Act. © Reproduction in whole or in part without the written permission of the Publisher is prohibited.

Jolie, Pitt's son hospitalised after accident — Angelina Jolie and Brad Pitt's son Pax Jolie-Pitt met with an accident on Monday. Pax, 20, was rushed to the hospital after sustaining a head injury following a harrowing crash in Los Angeles

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Wednesday, July 31, 2024
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Entertainment Industry Promotion

How to slay the ramp

Khushi just took sister's advice and kept it cool

Khushi Kapoor's excitement was palpable as she walked the ramp for the first time for Gaurav Gupta's collection 'Arunodaya' at India Couture Week 2024 on Monday. Reflecting on the advice her sister and actress, Janhvi Kapoor, had given her, Khushi felt ready to kill it on the runway.

Khushi told ANI, "Yeah, Janhvi told me to be calm, be present, and listen to the music. Janhvi had walked the ramp for Gaurav Gupta's collection titled 'Hiranyagarbha' at India Couture Week last year, setting a high bar for her younger sister.

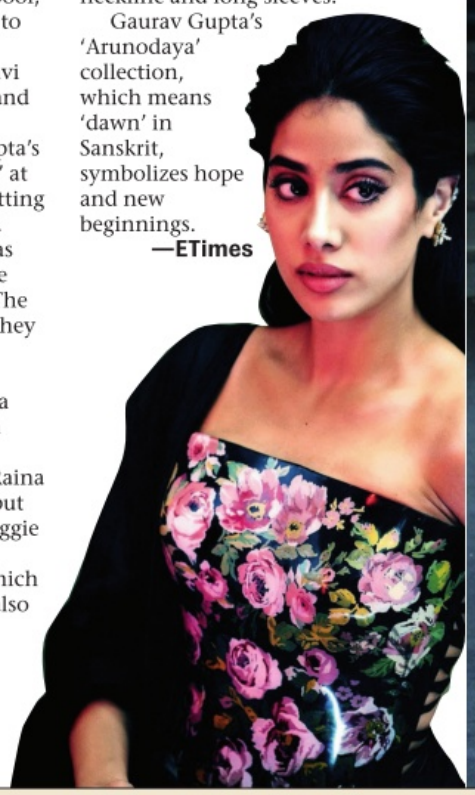
Walking alongside Khushi was her rumored boyfriend, and 'The Archies' co-star, Vedang Raina. The duo's chemistry was evident as they walked the ramp for Gupta's stunning collection, their interactions on stage hinting at a deeper connection and adding a romantic touch to the evening.

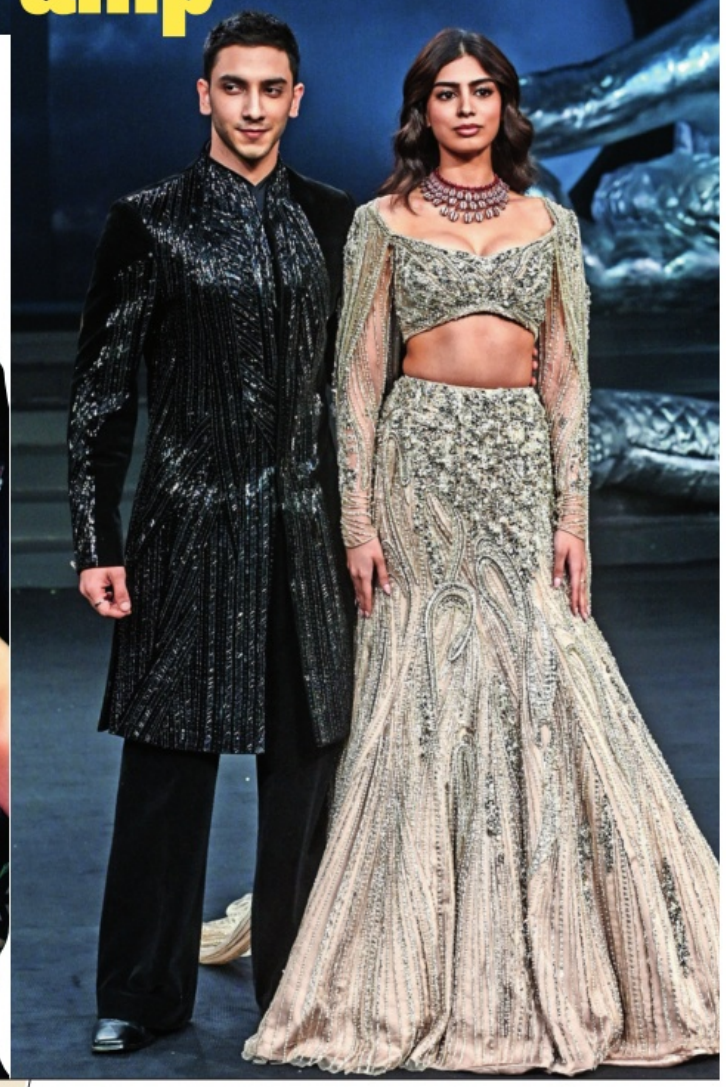
Khushi Kapoor and Vedang Raina had previously marked their debut together as Betty Cooper and Reggie Mantle in Zoya Akhtar's Indian adaptation of Archie Comics, which premiered on Netflix. The film also starred Suhana Khan, Agastya Nanda, Mihir Ahuja, Yuvraj Menda, and Dot, among others.

Talking about their outfits, Khushi dazzled in a glittering silver lehenga, paired with a bead-embellished blouse featuring flowing cape-style sleeves. Her high-waisted, fitand-flare lehenga was adorned with geometric patterns and swirling stones. Vedang Raina, complementing Kapoor's look, wore a sophisticated sherwani with a high neckline and long sleeves.

Gaurav Gupta's 'Arunodaya' collection, which means 'dawn' in Sanskrit, symbolizes hope and new beginnings.

—ETimes





Missing outfits

Stree introduced Shraddha Kapoor in a peculiar look. The horror-comedy co-starring Rajkummar Rao, Pankaj Tripathi and Abhishek Banerjee had the actress playing the role of a ghost. So, as the story continues with Stree 2, which is set to release on August 15, Shraddha was to follow the same look for which she was required to sport a few costumes that she wore in Stree.

Elaborating the incident, costume designer of the film Sheetal Sharma tells us, "To maintain continuity we had to use the same costumes. However, the outfits were in a godown and the team wasn't able to trace it. So, we had to redo all the outfits before the film went on floor. It was a challenge to recreate costumes that were made 5 years ago. We started from the scratch, did reprinting and redyeing of clothes making them look exactly the way they were in Stree."

Talking about the sequel, Sheetal, who's worked on films like Gangubai Kathiawadi and Animal shared, "We have kept the whole world the same. Time hasn't changed in Chanderi (the town where the film is set). Shraddha's character has more powers. So, ya we just tried to match the outfits and I think we have done it well. Only if someone sits with a magnifying glass might come to know about the changes. Because certain fabrics which we used in the earlier shoot weren't available anywhere. So, we had to redo the fabrics, dye it and get that patch done. We also redid the printing. It was quite crazy to put back the similar look."

—Onkar Kulkarni, ETimes

Suhana's home sweet homes

Aryan Khan, son of Bollywood superstar Shah Rukh Khan, has recently acquired two floors of a property in South Delhi's prestigious Panchsheel Park for a substantial sum of 37 crore. This property holds sentimental value for the Khan family, as the basement and ground floor are already owned by Shah Rukh and Gauri Khan, who resided there during their early years.

Last year, Suhana had invested in a 1.5 acre property in Alibaug, it reportedly had three houses and is priced at Rs 12.91 crore. Nestled in Thal village, IndexTap reported that Suhana paid a stamp duty of Rs 77.46 lakh on this transaction, which was registered in the name of Déjà Vu Farm Pvt Ltd, on which Gauri Khan's mother Savita Chhibber and sister Namita Chhibber are directors.Earlier this year, had acquired a luxurious beach-front property for over Rs 10 crore, including stamp duty charges. As reported by the Economic Times, the property features three buildings situated on a nearly 1.8-acre plot. Interestingly, Shah Rukh Khan also owns a lavish bungalow in Alibaug. The Khan family seems to have invested heavily in real estate across the country.

On the professional front, Suhana Khan is set to make her mark in the entertainment industry. She will be sharing the screen with her father, Shah Rukh Khan, in Sujoy Ghosh's upcoming film 'King'. Additionally, Aryan is making his directorial debut with a six-episode digital series titled 'Stardom', starring Bobby Deol and featuring a cameo by Ranbir Kapoor.

—ETimes

SANDALWOOD SHOTS

Y MAHESWARA REDDY

On an item song

The film Majestic released around two decades ago, had helped Challenging Star Darshan to establish himself as a most sought after actor in Sandalwood. Now, Majestic-2 is set to showcase anti-social activities and rowdy elements ruling the roost at present in and around Majestic.

Bharath, the son of producer-cum-distributor Shilpa Srinivas, is making debut as a hero with this movie. Bharath is playing the Mari Dasa character in Majestic-2. H Anandappa from Chitradurga is bankrolling the movie under the Amma Enterprises banner while Ramu is the director.

A colourful set was put up at Kanteerava Studio for shooting of an item song – Sheddige Hogonabaa Kuntebele Aadonabaa – sung by Meghana and the lyric was penned by director Ramu. Many junior artistes took part in the shooting of the item song for three days.

Sanju Weds Geetha sequel almost ready

Sanju Weds Geetha-2 has been creating a buzz in the industry since it went on floors last year. It is a sequel to the movie Sanju Weds Geetha that was released in 2011. Rachita Ram is paired opposite Srinagar Kitty in the sequel. Shooting for the pre-climax scene of the movie was held at Kanteerava Studio recently. The scene is about the hero in a soldier's costume succeeding in releasing the queen from the custody of German soldiers. Director Nagasekhar used green mat technology to shoot the scene.

The film is about a love story of a pair that fights for a better price for silk. Ragini Dwivedi is paired opposite Chethan Chandra. "Majority of the movie's shooting is completed. We are leaving for the Netherlands to complete the remaining portion. We have shot some sequences of the movie at 11 locations in Switzerland for 15 days. I thank producer Kumar for his cooperation," said director Nagasekhar. Producer Chalawadi Kumar said the last phase of the shooting is in progress. "I want Sanju Weds Geetha 2 to become a memorable movie," he said.